

Minutes of the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Sawyer County  
Board of Supervisors  
Large Courtroom; Sawyer County Courthouse/Virtual



Voting Committee Members Present (X)	District	Wards
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dale Schleeter	01	T Lenroot W-1, T Hayward W-7, C Hayward W-5 & 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jesse Boettcher-Virtual	02	T Lenroot W-2, T Round Lake W-1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tweed Shuman	03	T Hayward W-1 & 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stacey Hessel - Virtual	04	T Hayward W-1 & 3
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James H. Schlender, Jr.	05	T Hayward W-5 & 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marc D. Helwig	06	C Hayward W-1 & 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thomas W. Duffy	07	C Hayward W-3 & 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bruce Paulsen	08	T Bass Lake W-1 & 2
<input type="checkbox"/> Brian Bisonette	09	T Bass Lake W-3 & 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck Van Etten	10	T Sand Lake, T Edgewater W-1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dale Olson	11	T Edgewater W-2, T Bass Lake W-5, T Hayward W-8, T Meteor, T Couderay, V Couderay
<input type="checkbox"/> Dawn Petit	12	T Spider Lake, T Round Lake, W-2, T Winter W-1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Kinsley	13	T Hunter, T Radisson W-1, T-Ojibwa W-1, V Radisson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Buckholtz	14	T Radisson W-2, T Ojibwa W-2, T Weirgor, V Exeland, T Meadowbrook
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Peters	15	T Winter W-2, T Draper, V Winter

**Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**— Chair Tweed Shuman called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Roll Call was taken and quorum was met.

**Certification of Compliance** with the open meeting law was met.

**Public Comments** – Matthew Sink and Dan Mersel made public comment.

**Minutes** – A motion was made by Mr. Duffy to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2021, meeting; second by Mr. Buckholtz. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Covid-19 Update** – Ms. Julia Lyons provided a Covid-19 update. Sawyer County and the State of Wisconsin remain in the orange risk level. The County vaccination rate is now at 40% and they continue to partner with outside entities to make the vaccines available to anyone wanting one. The Hayward Area Memorial Hospital is currently conducting a community health assessment and Ms. Lyons is partnering in that endeavor.

**Sheriff Mrotek Communications Update** – Sheriff Mrotek provided a report out regarding the radio communications system in the County. Under the old system, one of two towers served 65-70% of the County, causing reception issues. The new system was intended to provide coverage for 90% of the county in receiving and transmitting but issues continued. They continue to work on testing and troubleshooting measures and expect improvements to continue.

**Zoning Committee Chair Report** – Mr. Buckholtz provided a report out. Zoning Administrator Jay Kozlowski presented a rezone request #RZN21-003 for applicant Sinkhole Investments, Inc. They are requesting a district zone change from Agricultural One (A-1) and Residential/Recreational One (RR-1) to Residential/Recreational Two (RR-2) for the purpose

of building a campground. The request was approved at the zoning committee in March. Mr. Paulsen made a motion to refer the rezone back to the Zoning Committee to be brought back to the full Board once the Committee has reviewed the Conditional Use Permit for the campground to be located on this property. A second was made by Mr. Buckholtz; motion carried 10-2 with Mr. Peters and Mr. Helwig voting “nay”.

Mr. Kozlowski presented the Agreement between the Northwest Regional Planning Commission and Sawyer County for review and renewal. A motion was made by Mr. Helwig; second by Mr. Paulsen to approve this renewal. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Public Safety Committee Chair Report** – Mr. Schlender advised that jail occupancy last month was at 76-77% capacity. JusticePoint provided an update at the April Public Safety meeting and created a working group to prepare the TAD grant application. If approved, the TAD grant will provide programming funds for the County to develop a drug court.

Resolution 2021-69 for Child Support Funding requesting that funding for county child support agencies be increased by \$4 million GPR in each fiscal year of the 2021-23 Wisconsin state budget. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz; second by Mr. Helwig to approve this Resolution. Motion carried without negative vote.

Mr. Schlender presented a draft of a Public Safety Committee mission statement that was advanced from the April Public Safety meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Helwig; second by Mr. Paulsen to approve the mission statement and incorporate into the County Board of Supervisors Policy and Procedures Manual. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Public Works Committee Chair Report** – Mr. Kinsley advised that Public Works Committee has requested approval to develop an ad hoc committee to preside over the review and hiring of the Construction Risk Manager position for the courtroom remodel project. Resolution # 2021-71 authorizing the creation of an ad hoc committee for the courthouse project was presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz; second by Mr. Paulsen to approve this Resolution. Motion carried without negative vote. A special meeting for the Public Works Committee will be held on Wednesday, April 28 at 6pm to approve the membership of this committee.

Mr. Kinsley presented Resolution 2021-64 Approving Sawyer County Airport Hangar Area Lease Amendments with one correction to the Hangar Lease template. Item 20 of the template, Snow Removal, should read “Lessor agrees to plow and remove the snow, at no extra charge, from the taxiways in front of the hangars, except within five (5) feet of hangar doors instead of reading “ten (10) feet”. A motion was made by Mr. Schlender; second by Mr. Peters to approve Resolution 2021-64. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Land, Water, and Forest Resources Committee Chair Report** – Mr. Paulsen presented the 2021-2025 Revised County Plan for Outdoor Recreation for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz to approve the Plan; second by Mr. Kinsley. Motion carried without negative vote.

At the recommendation of the County Treasurer, Mr. Paulsen presented an Over the Counter Land Sale in the Town of Ojibwa, #020-638-11-3303, for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz; second by Mr. Duffy to approve this sale. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Health and Human Services Board Chair Report** – Mr. Schleeter provided a recap of the Health and Human Services Committee meeting of April 13<sup>th</sup>. He advised that several members of the committee and Mr. Hoff attended a listening session with four of our state legislators. The key topic of concern was the increasing costs to the County for housing patients with mental health issues. All legislators expressed an interest in coming to Hayward for further discussion, and Mr. Hoff will make those arrangements.

Ms. Lyons presented changes recommended for drinking water testing fees. Due to increased lab charges, it was recommended that our fees be adjusted to help recover our costs. A motion was made by Mr. Helwig; second by Mr. Paulsen to approve the Resolution to Authorize the Sawyer County Health and Human Services Department to Increase Drinking Water Testing Fees. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Finance Committee Chair Report** – Mr. Paulsen requested approval for an authorized signature change for the Sawyer County Clerk of Court account with Frandsen Bank & Trust. A motion was made by Mr. Kinsley; second by Mr. Duffy to approve this request. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Economic Development and UW-Extension Committee Chair Report** – Mr. Schlender reported that a new item of interest is the potential partnership between Sawyer County Historical Society and members of the tribe to display some of the County's historical exhibits at the Kinneman School.

**County Administrator's Report** – A written report was provided. Mr. Hoff noted that the first half of the American Rescue Plan Act funds are expected to arrive by mid-May and other half next May. They are still awaiting guidance on expenditures which is expected later this month or next. Additional allocations from state level funds may impact our decision-making on how to spend the funds; duplication is to be avoided. A Senate Bill 279 regarding a proposal to pay each taxpayer some of their tax payments back is under review at the state. There is also talk of a sales tax holiday for bars/restaurants this summer. Both could affect county revenue if enacted. Sawyer County Airport was featured in *Business View Magazine's* last issue. The courtroom remodeling project RFP is out and proposals are due back April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Proposals will be reviewed by the ad hoc committee for selection. Individual leases for airport hangars as they expire will come forward now as their terms expire. Elections for board members are expected to be held at the same time next year using the existing districts as delays in receiving census data has postponed action on redistricting across the state.

**Sawyer County Board/Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Council Joint Committee Update**

**Correspondence, Reports from Conferences and Meetings, Other Matters for Discussion**

**Meeting Date/Time** – The next meeting of the County Board of Supervisors will be Thursday, May 20, at 6:30 pm in the Large Courtroom.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm  
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk